

Environmental Implications assessment

1. Name of activity:	Contract Change for Waste Services				
2. Main purpose of activity:	A new waste contract is required, with various changes needed to comply with national policy and to reduce impact on the environment.				
3. List the information, data or evidence used in this assessment:	Data from current waste contractor; WRAP Carbon Waste and Resources Metric; data from our carbon emissions assessment; data from public consultation				
Area of Potential Impact	Examples to Consider (non-exhaustive)	Neutral (X)	Negative (X)	Positive (X)	<p>Describe the contribution/impact on the area that the decision may have - assess whether this impact is a negative or positive or neutral one.</p> <p>Negative: What are the risks?</p> <p>Positive: What are the benefits?</p>
<p>1. Impact on greenhouse emission and support adaption to the effects of climate change</p>	<p>Will energy needs be met through renewable sources?</p> <p>Will it reduce emissions through retrofitting new technology?</p> <p>Will it reduce greenhouse gas emissions by reducing energy consumption and the need to travel?</p>			X	<p>Negative</p> <hr/> <p>Positive</p> <p>Overall, the proposed changes to the waste contract are forecasted to deliver a net carbon saving for North Herts Council according to both the WRAP Carbon Waste and Resources Metric and the government's conversion factors. Reducing to three weekly refuse collection across both North and East Herts (based on current</p>


					housing densities and the current diesel fleet) is anticipated to reduce annual fuel consumption by 40,000 litres, and save around 122 tonnes of carbon emissions annually.
<i>2. Use of natural resources including water and energy</i>	Will it reduce water consumption?			X	Negative
	Will it reduce energy consumption?				Positive A move to less frequent general refuse collection is likely to encourage residents to recycle more over time and/or seek out more easily reusable/recyclable products in their consumption habits.
<i>3. Minimisation of flood risks to the area (i.e. promotion of SUD's. protect surface and ground water quality)</i>	Will it minimise flood risk from all sources of flooding?	X			Negative
	Will it reduce property damage due to storm events/ heavy rainfall by improving flood resistance and flood resilience?				Positive
<i>4. To protect, enhance and create environments that encourage and support biodiversity</i>	Will it protect, enhance and increase biodiversity and protect habitats?	X			Negative
	Will it improve access to and promote educational value of sites of biodiversity interest?				Positive
<i>5. To improve Air Quality</i>	Will it improve air quality?			X	Negative
	Will it reduce emissions of key pollutants?				

<i>(air quality describes how polluted the air we breathe is)</i>					Positive For North Herts, the reduction in frequency in general refuse collection (from every fortnight to three-weekly) will mean fewer waste vehicles on the roads.
6. To reduce need to travel, the use of private motorised vehicular transport as well as encourage walking, cycling, and use of public transport	Will it encourage increased walking, cycling and use of public transport? Will it increase the proportion of journeys using modes other than a car?	X			Negative Positive

7. To reduce waste production and increase recycling, recovery and reuse of waste	Will it lead to reduced consumption of materials and resources? Will it reduce household waste? Will it reduce construction waste? Will it increase recovery recycling and re-use?			X	Negative Positive The proposal to move to three-weekly refuse collection should encourage residents to recycle more and to over time opt for products that are more easily reused or recycled. The employment of a Waste Awareness Officer will enable education and awareness raising amongst residents of
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					<p>all ages about the importance of reusing and recycling.</p> <p>It is further proposed to begin taking plastic film in the recycling bin, enabling residents to recycle a greater amount of their waste.</p> <p>It is proposed to expand food and garden waste services to the business community, in particular offering services to rural SMEs.</p> <p>It is also proposed to make all future bin replacements black/grey body with interchangeable coloured lids. Black/grey bins often contain higher proportion of recycled plastic polymer, while the proposal overall supports aspirations for a circular economy.</p>
<p><i>8. To enhance the public realm and street improvements</i></p>	<p>Will it reduce litter?</p>	<p>X</p>			<p>Negative</p>
	<p>Will it enhance the quality of public realm?</p>				<p>Positive</p>
<p><i>9. To protect, enhance and seek opportunities to increase open space</i></p>	<p>Will it improve open space?</p>	<p>X</p>			<p>Negative</p>
	<p>Will it improve landscape character?</p>				

	Will it minimise development on Greenfield sites?				Positive
<i>10. To reduce noise and impact of noise</i>	Will it reduce noise pollution from vehicles?	X			Negative
					Positive

6.0 Results			
	Yes	No	
Were positive impacts identified?	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	Positive impacts related to carbon savings and to the encouragement of recycling amongst residents identified.
Were negative impacts identified (what actions were taken)	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	
7.0 Consultation, decisions and actions			
Describe the decision on this activity (refer to section 3.2)			
No major change			
List all actions identified to address/mitigate negative impact or promote positive impact			
Action	Responsible person		Completion due date
Recruitment of Waste Awareness officer	Waste Team		April 2024
When, how and by whom will these actions be monitored?			
The Shared Waste Service will monitor the impacts through fuel and carbon related KPIs and through changes to the recycling rates.			
8.0 Signatures			
Assessor (report author):			
Name: Chloe Hipwood	Signature** 		
Validated by (line manager):			
Name: Sarah Kingsley	Signature**		
Forward to the Corporate Policy inbox: corporatepolicy@north-herts.gov.uk			
Signature** G R CHAPMAN			
Assessment date: 09.09.2022		Review date: 09.09.2023	

**** Please type your name to allow forms to be sent electronically.**

A copy of this form should be forwarded to corporatepolicy@north-herts.gov.uk and a duplicate filed on the council's report system, alongside any report proposing a decision on policy or service change.